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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Agricultural Research Service
Animal Disease Eradication Branch
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ADDITIONAL MEASURES NECESSARY FOR THE ERADICATION
OF VESICULAR EXANTHEMA

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You have been given the history, research and recent significant developments of the vesicular exanthema eradication program which shows considerable progress in certain States. However, there are States in which the program has reached a stalemate. Most of the vesicular exanthema-free States that were once infected went to great effort and expense to eradicate the disease and place into effect a program designed to control the disease and assist in preventing its re-introduction. Those States that do not have effective control and eradication programs stand as a threat to the swine industry of the disease-free States. Additional measures must be taken to assure control of the disease and prevent its spread to areas now free of the disease.

It has been agreed by you gentlemen and the representatives of the Department at previous meetings of this committee that control and eradication measures must include:

1. The control of garbage fed to swine
2. The control of garbage-fed swine

The control of the garbage can be obtained through adequate heat-treatment and the control of its interstate movement.

Enforcement of garbage-cooking laws and regulations will result in proper cooking. Enforcement of the U. S. Public Health Service regulation requiring the heat-treatment of all raw garbage moving interstate prior to its being fed to swine will control the interstate movement of raw garbage. The enforcement of this regulation should be of great assistance to the States of New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania and Connecticut in controlling raw garbage.

The control of garbage-fed swine:

1. Control movement of garbage-fed swine
 - (a) By quarantining all raw-garbage-fed swine to the premises.
 - (b) Movements of raw-garbage-fed swine permitted upon veterinary inspection permit and supervision for special processing only.
 - (c) Permit movement of cooked-garbage-fed swine on inspection and permit.
2. Regular premise inspection to determine if free of vesicular exanthema and whether garbage is being adequately cooked.

3. Prompt removal of vesicular exanthema-affected swine for special processing.
4. Disinfection of infected premises, facilities and vehicles.
5. Enforcement of quarantines and regulations. (Failure to enforce quarantines, laws and regulations is the major obstacle in the problem States.)

States in groups 1 through 3 are effectively carrying out control measures. However, it has not been easy. There has been a definite relationship between enforcement of quarantines, laws and regulations and the degree of compliance.

States in group 5 are not cooperating effectively in controlling garbage and garbage-fed swine. The States in this group that are under quarantine because of vesicular exanthema present a great threat to the early eradication of the disease.

Therefore, it appears that this committee should discuss the following points in order to guide them in recommending further steps that should be taken if the program is to attain satisfactory results:

(1) Continue to work with States toward enforcing measures designed to control and eradicate the disease, such as the proposed program for New Jersey that you have in the folder. If States fail to enforce such measures, (2) amend the Federal regulations by restricting the interstate movement of all swine, pork and pork products from such States.

a. Interstate movements of swine allowed only from non-quarantined areas on State or Federal veterinary inspection certificate. (Grain-fed, cooked-garbage-fed swine)

b. Allow interstate movement of pork and pork products from Federally-inspected plants, slaughtering only out-of-State hogs originating in a non-quarantined area and hogs inspected and certified by State or Federal veterinarians and originating in a non-quarantined area of the State involved.

We have presented to you the problem and the courses of action that we think possible. You may know of others that may be more effective.

Your views and comments on action necessary to reach a solution of the problems are requested and will certainly be appreciated.



